

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/626,892

Examiner

Donald Heckenberg

Applicant(s)

GRAHAM ET AL.

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 12 September 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,6,8-10 and 27-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 05 September 2006.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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1. Claims 6 and 8 were previously restricted and withdrawn from consideration. As the generic claim 1, from which claim 6 and 8 depend, has been determined as allowable, claims 6 and 8 are rejoined with the elected group and determined to be allowable for the reasons as claim 1 described below. See MPEP 821.04(a).

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a mold as defined in the claims of the instant application. The closest prior art is demonstrated by Cowelchuk (U.S. Pat. No. 6,875,390); Heuer (U.S. Pat. No. 2,902,721); or Japanese Pub. No. 2001-190311 (hereinafter "JP '311").

Cowelchuck discloses a method of manufacturing a vehicle trim component using a mold (see Fig. 4). The mold includes a pedestal structure (30) protruding from the mold surface, with a magnet (46) located on the top surface of the pedestal. The reference, however, fails to teach or suggest a plurality of magnets, or a veneer permanently adhered to the pedestal.

Heuer discloses a process of molding a refractory brick using a mold structure. The mold includes magnets (25), with veneer-like plates (28) attached to the top of the magnets. The

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reference, however, fails to teach or suggest the plates to be permanently attached to the magnets, or the magnets to be on the top surface of a pedestal protruding from the mold surface.

JP '311 discloses a fastener molding device, which includes a magnet (4) and plate adjacent to the top surface of the magnet (see Fig. 1). The reference, however, fails to teach or suggest a plurality of magnets, the plate to be permanently attached to the magnets, or the magnets to be on the top surface of a pedestal protruding from the mold surface.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donald Heckenberg whose telephone number is (571) 272-1131. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Yogendra Gupta, can be reached at (571) 272-1316. The official fax phone number for

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the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <<<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>>>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).


Donald Heckenberg
Primary Examiner
A.U. 1722

9-19-6